MNM Fatal 2005-30

- Fall of Person
- October 22, 2005 (Nevada)
- Gold Ore Operation
- Strip Operator
- 45 years old
- 8 years mining experience

Overview

The victim and another miner were pulling a sump pump through an opening in the second floor of the building. After the pump was removed, the victim fell through the opening into a sump below.



Causal Factors

- Administrative controls needed improvement in that safe work procedures were not followed. The miners removed the floor cover to remove the pump, creating an opening to the sump below. The victim was working where there was a danger of falling near an unguarded floor opening and was not secured by a safety belt and line.
- A risk assessment was not conducted prior to beginning this task. The victim may not have recognized the hazard associated with working adjacent to the floor opening.

Best Practices

- Stop, Look, Analyze, and Manage (SLAM) each task to identify all potential hazards. Initiate action to protect yourself when performing every task.
- Train all miners to recognize hazards from falling and ensure that fall protection equipment is provided.
- Always wear appropriate fall protection equipment where hazards from falling exist.